



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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VINCENT H. COHEN JR. NAMED PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY ***U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. Cites Experience, Community Ties***

WASHINGTON - Vincent H. Cohen Jr., a veteran prosecutor with extensive experience in criminal and civil litigation, today joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia as Principal Assistant U.S. Attorney. In announcing the appointment, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. said that Cohen's experience and commitment to the community make him well-suited for the role.

Cohen, 39, returns to an office where he served with distinction from 1997 to 2003. As an Assistant U.S. Attorney, he conducted grand jury investigations and obtained indictments for cases involving bribery and gratuities, embezzlement, false claims, theft of government property and Worker's Compensation fraud. He also prosecuted cases involving homicides, carjackings and other violent crimes. On the civil side, Cohen defended the United States against allegations of employment discrimination, suits under the Federal Torts Claims Act, and challenges to agency actions. He received numerous awards for his outstanding efforts, including honors from the Attorney General of the United States as well as from the Offices of Inspector General of the Department of State and the Smithsonian Institution.

Cohen most recently was a partner at the law firm of Schertler & Onorato LLP, where his practice included representation of individuals and corporations in all aspects of criminal and civil litigation in state and federal courts. He handled cases involving public corruption, bank fraud, bribery, internal corporate investigations, government fraud, antitrust, health care fraud, securities fraud, congressional inquiries and homicide. His civil experience included representation of both plaintiffs and defendants in the areas of products liability, employment discrimination, premises liability and personal injury.

"Vince Cohen is an extremely talented attorney who has the unique ability to assess a case from all the different angles," Machen said. "He understands the gravity of the decisions we make and how they affect the lives of the residents of this city and he is committed to strengthening the bond between our office and the community. He will be a tremendous asset for the District of Columbia."

Cohen recently was named one of the “Nation’s Best Advocates: 40 Lawyers Under 40” by the National Bar Association. He was also honored by his undergraduate and law school alma mater, Syracuse University, with The Chancellor’s Citation for Distinguished Achievement in Law. He is a member of the faculty at the Harvard Law School Trial Advocacy Workshop, sponsored by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. He is a frequent lecturer at Harvard Law School and Syracuse University School of Law.

He is the immediate past General Counsel and active member of 100 Black Men of Greater Washington, Inc., a national organization that focuses on improving the quality of life for African-Americans in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area through programs focusing on health and wellness, economic empowerment, education, and mentoring.

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